special skills or qualifications, or other appropriate factors;

- (2) A targeted local market supplement applies to an employee eligible for a standard local market supplement only if the targeted local market supplement is a larger amount; and
- (3) Except for physicians and dentists (in occupational series 0602 and 0680, respectively) or as otherwise provided under §9901.312(d), an employee's adjusted salary that includes an applicable targeted local market supplement may not exceed the rate cap equal to the rate for Executive Level IV plus 5 percent, as provided in §9901.312(b).

## §9901.333 Setting and adjusting local market supplements.

- (a) Standard local market supplements are set and adjusted consistent with the setting and adjusting of corresponding General Schedule locality payments under 5 U.S.C. 5304 and 5304a.
- (b) Subject to §9901.105, the Secretary may set and adjust targeted local market supplements. In determining the amounts of the supplements, the Secretary will consider mission requirements, labor market conditions, cost, and pay adjustments received by employees of other Federal agencies, allowances and differentials under 5 U.S.C. chapter 59, and any other relevant factors. The Secretary may determine the effective date of newly set or adjusted targeted local market supplements. Established supplements will be reviewed for possible adjustment at least annually in conjunction with rate range adjustments under §9901.322.

# § 9901.334 Eligibility for pay increase associated with a supplement adjustment.

- (a) When a local market supplement is adjusted under §9901.333, employees to whom the supplement applies with current ratings of record above "unacceptable" (Level 1), and employees who do not have current ratings of record for the most recently completed appraisal period, are eligible to receive any pay increase resulting from that adjustment.
- (b) An employee with a current rating of record of "unacceptable" will not receive a pay increase under this section (i.e., the employee's local mar-

ket supplement percentage will not be increased). Once such an employee has a new rating of record above "unacceptable," the employee is entitled to the full amount of any applicable local market supplement effective on the date of the first adjustment in that local market supplement occurring on or after the effective date of the new rating of record as specified in §9901.411(d), or, if earlier, the effective date of an applicable general salary increase as described in §9901.323(b).

#### PERFORMANCE-BASED PAY

#### § 9901.341 General.

Sections 9901.342 through 9901.345 describe the performance-based pay that is part of the pay system established under this subpart. These provisions authorize payments to employees based on individual performance or contribution, or team or organizational performance, as a means of fostering a high-performance culture that supports mission accomplishment.

### §9901.342 Performance payouts.

- (a) Overview. (1) The NSPS pay system will be a performance-based pay system and will result in a distribution of available performance pay funds based upon individual performance, individual contribution, team or organizational performance, or a combination of those elements. The NSPS pay system will use a pay pool concept to manage, control, and distribute performance-based pay increases and bonuses. The performance payout is a function of the amount of money in the performance pay pool and the number of shares assigned to individual employees.
- (2) The rating of record used as the basis for a performance payout is the one assigned for the most recently completed appraisal period. Unless otherwise provided in this section, if an employee is not eligible to have a rating of record for the current rating cycle for reasons other than those identified in paragraphs (i) through (l) of this section, such employee will not be eligible for a performance payout under this part.